

Message Text

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ACTION SY-05

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

OPR-02 A-01 SCS-03 SCA-01 DHA-02 SCCT-01 /068 W

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R 070640Z FEB 76

FM AMCONSUL ASMARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3808

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

C O N F I D E N T I A L ASMARA 0100

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ASEC ET

SUBJECT: SECURITY OF AMERICANS IN ASMARA

1. EMBASSY ADDIS CONCERN THAT FOUR FULL-TIME EPMG SOLDIERS ON CONGEN COMPOUND COULD INVOLVE CONSULATE IN FIREFIGHTS IS UNDERSTOOD BUT BELIEVE RISK OF UNDESIRE PARTICIPATION ANY THESE GUARDS IN FIREFIGHTS HAS BEEN MARKEDLY REDUCED BY TRANSMISSION OF "RULES OF ENGAGEMENT" TO RESPONSIBLE EPMG AUTHORITIES WHO EXPRESSED WILLINGNESS TO SEE THAT THEY OBSERVED. THESE RULES WERE ABSTRACTED FROM MSG DETACHMENT ORDERS WHICH ESTABLISH THE NEUTRALITY OF THE CONGEN COMPOUND, AND ORDERS WEAPONS TO BE USED ONLY IN REPULSING DIRECT PENETRATION OF CONGEN

PAGE 2 RUFTEFA5100 C O N F I D E N T I A L

COMPOUND. COPY OF THESE RULES BEING POUCHED TO EMBASSY.

COL. ILMA, G-3, SECOND DIVISION, HAS PERSONALLY SURVEYED COMPOUND AND BRIEFED EPMG GUARDS.

2. SECURITY PRECAUTIONS FOR RESIDENCES OF AMERICAN DOD-CONTRACT EMPLOYEES AT KAGNEW HAVE BEEN COMPLETED. WALLS, BARBED WIRE, FLOODLIGHTS AND ALARM SYSTEMS HAVE BEEN INSTALLED AT BOTH BARATTOLO ESTATE AND TRACT ECHO ANNEX. EPMG GUARDS ARE
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POSTED WITHIN BARATTOLO ESTATE COMPOUND AND APPEAR TO BE

TAKING THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES SERIOUSLY. LIKEWISE SECURITY
AT TRACT ECHO HAS BEEN TIGHTENED, REQUIRING SEARCH OF ALL
ETHIOPIAN NATIONALS ENTERING AMERICAN PORTION TRACT ECHO AND
ALL VEHICLES TO BEAR STICKER PERMITTING ENTRY TO TRACT.
SIMILAR SEARCHES NOW TAKE PLACE AT CONGEN COMPOUND.
SHERRY

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